

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Claim 1 (Original). A paperboard material useful in the manufacture of paperboard containers such as paper cups comprising a paperboard web including wood fibers and expanded microspheres dispersed within the fibers and having an apparent density of from about 6.0 to about 10 lb/3MSF/mil and a caliper of from 24 to about 35 mil with an internal bond of at least about 80×10^3 ft-lbf.

Claim 2 (Original). The paperboard material of claim 1 wherein the density of the web is at least about 6.5 lb/3MSF/mil and the caliper of the web is at least about 28 mil.

Claim 3 (Original). The paperboard material of claim 2 wherein the average bond of the web is at least about 100×10^3 ft-lbf.

Claim 4 (Original). The paperboard of claim 1 wherein the average internal bond of the web is at least about 100×10^3 ft-lbf.

Claim 5 (Original). The paperboard of claim 1 wherein the average internal bond of the web is at least about 80×10^3 ft-lbf.

Claim 6 (Original). The paperboard material of claim 1 further comprising a barrier coating on at least one of the surfaces of the web.

Claim 7 (Original). The paperboard material of claim 6 wherein the barrier coating is present only on a surface of the web to be placed interiorly of a cup.

Claim 8 (Original). The paperboard material of claim 6 wherein the barrier coating has an average thickness of from about 0.5 to about 3.5 mil.

Claim 9 (Original). The paperboard material of claim 6 wherein the barrier coating comprises a coating material selected from the group consisting of polyethylene, EVOH, and polyethylene terephthalate having an average thickness ranging from about 0.5 to about 3.5 mil.

Claim 10 (Original). The paperboard material of claim 6 wherein the barrier coating comprises a low density polyethylene having an average thickness of from about 1 to about 3 mil.

Claim 11 (Original). The paperboard material of claim 6 wherein a barrier coating is present on both surfaces of the web.

Claim 12 (Original). The paperboard material of claim 1 wherein the web has a Sheffield smoothness of at least about 300 SU.

Claim 13 (Original). The paperboard material of claim 1 wherein the web has a surface with a Sheffield smoothness of at least about 300 SU and the material contains printing directly on the surface.

Claim 14 (Original). The paperboard material of claim 1 wherein the web has a surface with a Sheffield smoothness of at least about 300 SU and a PPS10 smoothness of about 6.5 microns or less and carries printing on the surface.

Claim 15 (Original). The paperboard material of claim 1 wherein the cellulosic fibers in the web comprise from about 20 to about 40% by weight dry basis softwood fibers and from about 60 to about 80% by weight dry basis hardwood fibers.

Claim 16 (Original). The paperboard material of claim 1 wherein the expanded microspheres in the web comprise synthetic polymeric microspheres and comprise from about 0.25 to about 10 wt. % of the total weight of the web on a dry basis.

Claim 17 (Original). The paperboard material of claim 1 wherein the expanded microspheres in the web comprise synthetic polymeric microspheres and comprise from about 5 to about 7 wt. % of the total weight of the web on a dry basis.

Claim 18 (Original). A paperboard material useful in the manufacture of insulated containers such as cups which comprises a paperboard web including wood fiber and from about 5 to about 10 wt. % dry basis expanded synthetic polymer microspheres based on the total weight of the web dispersed within the fibers, an apparent density of from about 6.0 to about 10 lb/3MSF/mil, a caliper of from about 24 to about 35 mil, an average internal bond of at least about 80×10^3 ft-lbf, a Sheffield smoothness of about 300 SU or greater, and a barrier coating having a thickness of from about 0.5 to about 3.5 mil on at least one surface of the web.

Claim 19 (Original). The paperboard material of claim 16 further comprising printing applied directly to at least one surface of the web.

Claims 20 - 40 (Cancelled).